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## COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

*Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy*


Division of Mineral Mining

900 Natural Resources Drive, Ste.400

Charlottesville, VA 22903

(434) 951-6310

TO: All Mineral Mine Operators

FROM:   
Jeffrey D. Stewart

SUBJECT: Virginia Mineral Mine Safety Awards

DATE: April 8, 2015

The Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy - Division of Mineral Mining (DMM) and the Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance (VTCA) are accepting applications for the annual Virginia Mineral Mine Safety Awards, a very successful program that since its inception in 2007 has recognized 48 companies and 106 mineral mine workers for outstanding safety achievements in Virginia's mineral mining industry. The 106 workers who have been recognized represent 2,660 years working in the mineral mining industry without a lost time injury.

This year, DMM and VTCA are again expanding the program to include additional individual award categories. Individuals reaching 15-, 20-, 25-, 30-, 35-, 40-, and 45-years without a lost time injury in 2014 will be recognized.

The company award program will follow the same procedures as last year:

- mine companies will **not** need to submit an application to be considered for the mine company awards. DMM/VTCA will determine the winner based on data for all mines within a category.
- the quarry category will include the following 4 award ranges: 0 to 25,000 employee hours; 25,000 to 50,000 employee hours; 50,000 to 75,000 employee hours; and, 75,000 and above employee hours;
- the open pit category will include the following 4 award ranges: 0 to 5,000 employee hours; 5,000 to 10,000 employee hours; 10,000 to 30,000 employee hours; and, 30,000 and above employee hours.

A listing of the awards criteria is described below and attached for your information. **No application is necessary to be considered for a company award. Individual award nominations will be accepted through May 29, 2015.** Applications may be hand delivered or mailed to the attention of Jeff Stewart at the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, Division of Mineral Mining, 900 Natural Resources Drive, Suite 400, Charlottesville, VA 22903.

**Award Criteria**

Virginia Mineral Mine Safety Awards will be evaluated for the following categories: Quarry (Surface and Underground) and Open Pit (Sand, Clay, Dredge, Dragline, etc.). Four awards will be given in each category to recognize various size operations. The period covered for the safety awards program is from January 1 to December 31, 2014.

<u>Quarry</u>	<u>Open Pit</u>
0 – 25,000 employee hours	0 - 5,000 employee hours
25,000 – 50,000 employee hours	5,000 – 10,000 employee hours
50,000 – 75,000 employee hours	10,000 – 30,000 employee hours
75,000+ employee hours	30,000+ employee hours

The mine operation having the highest number of employee hours, with no occupational injuries, in each category, will receive the Virginia Mineral Mine Safety Award. If no mine meets this requirement, an award may be given to the mine having the lowest incident rate (employee hours worked vs. occupational injuries) for the calendar year, in that category. The company mine safety awards will be presented at the VTCA Annual Meeting, July 11, 2015, at The Homestead, Virginia.

Individual employee safety awards will be considered for persons who reach fifteen, twenty, twenty-five, thirty, thirty-five or more, forty or more, or forty-five or more consecutive years in the mining industry without a lost time injury during the 2014 award year. All individual award winners will receive a certificate acknowledging their achievement. Individual employee safety awards will be presented to the winners at their work location either by DMM/VTCA or mine management personnel.

DMM and VTCA believe that the Virginia Mineral Mine Safety Award program provides an incentive to your employees to work with care, and instill pride in those responsible for a winning effort. We hope that you will participate in this safety program.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact any Division of Mineral Mining representative or call (434) 951-6315. We look forward to receiving your response.

Encl.

**INDIVIDUAL SAFETY AWARD**  
**Application For Consideration**

Name of Miner recommended for award: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation of Miner: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Operation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Operation: \_\_\_\_\_

Virginia Mine Permit No. \_\_\_\_\_ MSHA I.D. No. (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**Individual Categories:** (Indicate only one milestone that was reached during calendar year 2014)

- ☐ Individual working 45 or more years without a lost time injury as of the award year
- ☐ Individual working 40 or more years without a lost time injury as of the award year
- ☐ Individual working 35 or more years without a lost time injury as of the award year
- ☐ Individual working 30 years without a lost time injury as of the award year
- ☐ Individual working 25 years without a lost time injury as of the award year
- ☐ Individual working 20 years without a lost time injury as of the award year
- ☐ Individual working 15 years without a lost time injury as of the award year

NOTE: Individuals may receive only one safety award within each category.

**Period of time worked by miner.** (Give dates and locations worked and account for required time within category applied for. Use additional space if necessary.)

I hereby certify that the information submitted on this application is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Person Completing Application \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name

Signature

Title

Date

Telephone

e-mail

**Application Deadline May 29, 2015**

In order to verify injuries and work hours the applicant must be willing to allow reasonable access to work and accident records.

# VIRGINIA MINERAL MINE SAFETY AWARD CRITERIA

## *Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy Division of Mineral Mining Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance*

### Mine Categories

Virginia Mineral Mines that have outstanding safety performance will be considered for awards in the following categories (no application required):

#### Quarry

0 – 25,000 employee hours  
25,000 – 50,000 employee hours  
50,000 – 75,000 employee hours  
75,000 + employee hours

#### Open Pit

0 – 5,000 employee hours  
5,000 – 10,000 employee hours  
10,000 – 30,000 employee hours  
30,000 + employee hours

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### **All Companies Must Meet the Following Requirements**

- No mine operation will be considered that has incurred a **serious personal injury or fatality** during the award period.
- Employee-hours should not include office work.
- Each mine operation must have a Virginia Mine Permit Number and, if applicable, an MSHA I.D. Number.

After review by the Virginia Division of Mineral Mining, the mine operation having the highest number of employee-hours with no occupational injuries in each category, will receive the Virginia Mineral Mine Safety Award. If no mine meets this requirement, an award may be given to the mine having the lowest incident rate (employee hours worked vs. occupational injuries) for the calendar year, in that category.

**Virginia Mineral Mine Safety Awards will be presented at the VTCA Annual Meeting on July 11, 2015, at The Homestead, Virginia.**

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### Individual Categories

Individual Virginia miners who have outstanding safety performance may be nominated for awards in the following categories:

- **Individuals** working 45 years without a lost time injury as of the award year.
- **Individuals** working 40 years without a lost time injury as of the award year.
- **Individuals** working 35 years without a lost time injury as of the award year.
- **Individuals** working 30 years without a lost time injury as of the award year.
- **Individuals** working 25 years without a lost time injury as of the award year.
- **Individuals** working 20 years without a lost time injury as of the award year.
- **Individuals** working 15 years without a lost time injury as of the award year.

**NOTE:** Individuals may receive only one safety award within each category. The 15, 20, 25, and 30 year awards will only be presented if the milestone is reached in 2014. The 35-, 40-, and 45-year awards will be presented for 35 or more, 40 or more, and 45 or more years reached in 2014.

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### **All Applicants Must Meet the Following Requirements**

- The employee's experience must have been primarily in the field, on a mine site. Office workers are not eligible for the award.
- A minimum of 130 days must have been worked at a mine site during each calendar year.
- All work must have been in the Virginia mining industry or with a contractor serving the industry.

A responsible individual will be required to sign an affidavit stating that the submitted information is true and correct. **In order to verify injuries and work hours the applicant must be willing to allow reasonable access to work and accident records.** MSHA and DMM accident files will be reviewed prior to selection of the award winners.

**Individual Mine Safety Awards will be presented at the individual's work location.**

**Application Deadline: May 29, 2015**

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